DRAFT May 2017

PPCPs (Pharmaceuticals and Personal Care Products): Diazepam

Diazepam is a drug that is prescribed to correct the chemical imbalance within the brain. The pharmaceutical is prescribed to treat anxiety disorders, alcohol withdrawal symptoms, or muscle spasms. Diazepam is sometimes used with other medications to treat seizures. Diazepam is listed as a habit-forming (addictive) drug. Common side effects include drowsiness and loss of coordination (Kruidering-Hall and Campbell 2012).

There were 11 articles collected from the ECOTOX database in April 2016 related to diazepam. Ten of the articles were related to aquatic life. Diazepam has shown to affect behavior and inhibit regeneration in plants. The most sensitive group for diazepam are freshwater polyps.

Reported effects of diazepam from toxicity literature in the ECOTOX database (as of April 2016)

Aquatic	Reported Most	Reported	Reported Toxicity Values (LOEC, NOEC,
Life	Common effect(s)	Common	EC50, LC50)
		study	
		endpoints	
Fish	Reduced yolk sac,	Mortality,	LC50: 12.7 mg/L (Nunes 2005)
	mild anxiety,	Behavior	
	inconclusive stress		
	behavior		
Crustacean	No mortality	Mortality	LC50: 12.16 mg/L (Nunes 2005)
(rotifers)	detected, LC50		
	increased when		
	mixed with DMSO		
Freshwater	Inhibited	Chronic,	Inhibited growth at 10 mg/L (Pascoe
Polyp	regeneration	Acute	2003)
Algae	Lethal effects that	Growth	IC50: 16.46 mg/L (Nunes 2005)
	alters pregnancy	inhibition	
	were not found in		
	environmentally		
	relevant		
	concentrations.		

Kruidering-Hall, M. and L. Campbell (2012) Skeletal muscle relaxants *in* B.G. Katzung, S.B. Masters, A.J. Trevor, 12 Eds. Basic and clinical pharmacology. McGraw Hill. New York, NY, pp. 476